

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4-19 are now present in this application.

Claims 1, 7 and 13 have been amended, and claim 3 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 7-11 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is noted in claim 7 that the "ROM bit line" is not recited. Otherwise, the objections raised by the Examiner should now be addressed. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection now be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by MARR, U.S. Patent 6,041,008. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner considers claims 12 and 14-19 to be allowable. Also, Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 3-11 and 13 are considered to contain allowable subject matter provided that, for some of these claims, the 35 USC 112 rejection were overcome. Because the limitations of claim 3 have now been incorporated into claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the 35 USC 102(b) rejection should now be overcome. All objections and rejections in this application should now be

overcome. Accordingly, all claims should now be in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.


In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


Joe McKinney Muncy, #32,334

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

KM/asc
3313-1008P

(Rev. 02/12/2004)